

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 IOE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /047 W
-----073521 261715Z /43
O R 261643Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4294
INFO /USMISSION GENEVA 749

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 3872

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, NO, ILO
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON ILO

REF: (A) OSLO 3678 (B) OSLO 3742 (C) STATE 202728

1. DURING MY INITIAL CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND HE RAISED THE ISSUE OF U.S. MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO). IT WAS THE ONLY SUBJECT RAISED ON HIS INITIATIVE.
2. THE MINISTER SAID THAT THE GON VERY MUCH WANTED THE U.S. TO REMAIN IN THE ILO. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEMS THE U.S. HAD CONCERNING THE ILO AND NOTED THAT THE GON WAS MOST INTERESTED IN DOING WHAT IT COULD TO HELP RESOLVE THOSE PROBLEMS.
3. IN REPLY, I POINTED OUT THAT ILO MEMBERSHIP WAS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION WITHIN THE USG. AT THIS POINT I SUGGESTED THAT THE GON INTEREST MIGHT BEST BE SERVED BY HAVING THE NORWEGIAN LABOR ORGANIZATION (LO) MAKE ITS VIEWS KNOWN AGAIN TO THE AFL-CIO. I ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE OCTOBER 23 VISIT OF SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHALL WOULD PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION OF THE ILO QUESTION.

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4. FRYDENLUND AGREED THAT THE MARSHALL VISIT WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION BUT ASKED IF HE AND I COULD GET TOGETHER NEXT WEEK FOR AN "INFORMAL" DISCUSSION OF THE ILO MATTER. I AGREED TO THE MEETING, ALTHOUGH NO DATE WAS SET.
5. IF, AS APPEARS TO BE THE CASE, FRYDENLUND IS WILLING

TO USE NORWAY'S GOOD OFFICES WITH SOME OF THE KEY LDC MEMBERS OF THE ILO, MY MEETING WITH HIM COULD BE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR US. IN ADDITION, THE FORTHCOMING VISIT TO OSLO OF SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHALL COULD PROVIDE A CHANCE TO REVIEW THE RESULTS OF ANY SUCH GON EFFORTS AND POSSIBLY TO CONSULT ON FURTHER NORWEGIAN EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION.

6. I RECEIVED REFTEL C AFTER MY CONVERSATION WITH FRYDENLUND. I PROPOSE TO DRAW ON IT FOR MY MEETING WITH HIM NEXT WEEK AND TO EXPLORE WITH HIM THE POSSIBILITIES OUTLINED IN THE CABLE. I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE BEING APPRISED OF ANY SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ILO MATTER AND OF ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE CONCERNING MY MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO03872
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770309-0733
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770819/aaaaapfe.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 97d65b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 OSLO 3678, 77 OSLO 3742, 77 STATE 202728
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1468956
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORWEGIAN REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON ILO
TAGS: ELAB, NO, US, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/97d65b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009